

# BROOKLYN NEWS.

**HELD UP BY A MASKED THIEF, IN THE OPERA BOUFFE CITY. HIGH LICENSE IN BROOKLYN.**

Mrs. Sonnenstrahl Looked Into a Robber's Pistol.

**Sensational Story Under Investigation by Brooklyn Police.**

The Brooklyn police are investigating the story told by Mrs. Henry Sonnenstrahl, the wife of a wholesale grocer doing business at 90 Washington avenue. She says that she was "held up" at the point of a revolver by a masked robber, who demanded the cash in the safe in her husband's store.

Mrs. Sonnenstrahl was alone in the store last evening, all the employees having finished their work and gone home. Her husband had gone to get his supper. She was making up the books, and sat at a desk about ten feet from the front door. She says she looked at the clock, 6.30. A few minutes later her husband was attracted to the front of the store by hearing the door open, and she saw a man walking quickly inside.

Mrs. Sonnenstrahl saw that his face was completely hidden by a long black mask made of cloth. His hands were covered with black gloves.

Before she could ask what he wanted or whether he was a robber, according to her story, rushed upon her, and, thrusting a revolver in her face, said he would kill her if she did not open the safe.

The safe stood in the rear of the store. She told the thief that it was unlocked. He then left the desk and walked back to the safe again.

Mrs. Sonnenstrahl saw her chance to escape, and ran out into the street, but had only gone a few steps from the door when she faints, and it is believed that she had left the store, and was walking quickly inside.

The woman thinks she must have been on the sidewalk, and when she awoke, she recovered, she returned to the store, and, after locking up the books, she went home.

For some reason not explained, she was not told of the alleged occurrence until after 10 o'clock last night, when the woman's husband called at the Clermont avenue station and reported it.

Detectives Burns and Fitzpatrick were detailed to make an investigation. They called at Mrs. Sonnenstrahl's home, 164 Ryerson street, but were not permitted to enter.

Mrs. Sonnenstrahl declared that the safe was really locked when the robber came into the store, nothing.

She describes her visitor as being about 5 feet or 10 inches in height; weight, 100 pounds, and says he wore a dark doublet and hose.

The police are inclined to doubt her story, Capt. Hardy said to-day that no body in Edward Whelan's stable in doors away from him during the last evening, and he also declares that Rundeman Enson and two policemen of his command were standing at the corner of Washington and Clermont avenues, 200 feet away, at the time, and saw nobody rush out of the store and along the street.

**LOOKING FOR WALTER A. RANKIN.**

**He Disappeared from Williamsburg Last Saturday.**

The police of the Fifth Precinct, Williamsburg, are looking for Walter A. Rankin, of the Fourth Ward, whose friends are anxious to ascertain his whereabouts.

Rankin is an Englishman, and was employed as assistant superintendent by a tin company, it is said. He was reported to have disappeared last Saturday morning, and is thought to have returned to England.

**Says His Friend Did Not Shoot Him.**

In the Butler Street Court, Brooklyn, today, Frank Mandrone, of 13 Hamilton avenue, was discharged from custody. He had been arrested on the charge of breaking and entering the residence in the neck during a quarrel, but the latter exonerated himself. It is in Long Island College Hospital and is to tell just how he was shot.

**Searching for an Unknown's Body.**

The crew of the Brooklyn police boat Judge Moore is searching for the body of an unknown man who fell overboard at midnight while coming ashore from the ship Avon, lying in Erie Basin. Up to noon to-day his body had not been recovered.

**SHIPPING NEWS.**

**ALMANAC FOR TO-DAY.**

**Surplus.** 6.09 Sun sets, 6.05 Moon rises 5.44  
LOW WATER TO-DAY.

**Sandy Hook** ..... 6.23 6.50  
**Governor's Island** ..... 6.19 6.50  
**Hill Gate** ..... 6.15 6.45

To find Eastern Standard Time subtract four minutes.

**PORT OF NEW YORK.**

**ARRIVED.**

Steamer *Lahm*, Capt. Helmers, from Bremen and Hamburg, with 1,000 passengers and 212 steerage passengers to Orléans & Co., arrived at the port of New York, March 14, with merchandise and 1,100, 144 second and 380 steerage passengers, to International Navigation Company, arrived at 10.30 A.M.

Steamer *Spaniard*, Capt. Baehr, from Rotterdam, March 14, with 142 steerage passengers and 350 steerage passengers to International Navigation Company, arrived at 10.30 A.M.

**OUTGOING STEAMERS.**

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Steamer *Hippopotamus*, Capt. Turnbull, from Gibara, five days, with freight to H. Daniels & Co., arrived at the port of New York.

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